

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

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COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 INR-10 IO-14 L-03

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TAGS: EFIS CA

SUBJECT: THE SEAL HUNT: GREENPEACE INTENTIONS

REF: HALIFAX 0111

1. REPORT IN MAR 2 ISSUE OF HALIFAX CHRONICLE-HERALD SAYS GREENPEACE PRESIDENT PATRICK MOORE, IN TELEPHONE INTERVIEW FROM HIS VANCOUVER HQS, HAS STATED HIS ORGANIZATION HAS NO PLANS TO HAVE REPRESENTATIVES IN ST JOHN S IN ORDER TO ATTEMPT TO IMPEDE DEPARTURE OF SEALING FLEET THEREFROM ON MAR 5. GREENPEACE, HE INDICATED, PLANS FOCUS ITS EFFORTS IN ST ANTHONY, NFLD, AT OPENING OF HUNT ON MAR 10 WHERE FOUNDATION STAFFERS WILL BE JOINED BY "SPECIAL GUESTS", ONE OF WHOM WILL BE PAMELA SUE MARTIN WHO PLAYS NANCY DREW ON TV. MOORE UNWILLING NAME OTHER SPECIAL GUESTS LEST SUCH PUBLICITY JEOPARDIZE PERMISSION TO ENTER CANADA OF THOSE AMONG THEM WHO ARE NOT CANADIAN CITIZENS.

2. GREENPEACE PLANNING ASSEMBLE GROUP IN OTTAWA ON MAR 10, JUST PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR ST ANTHONY, UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR MAJOR PRESS CONFERENCE. ON SUBJECT OF PUBLICITY, MOORE STATED PRO-SEALING CAMPAIGN OF NFLD GOVT WAS POSITIBELY ADVANTAGEOUS TO THOSE OPPOSED TO HUNT:

"THERE WAS A LOT OF WHINING AND
SNIVELLING ABOUT THE THOUSANDS OF
POOR NEWFOUNDLANDERS IN THE OUTPORTS,

WHEN AS A MATTER OF FACT, THOSE ARE
THE PEOPLE WHO ARE REALLY BEING RIPPED
OFF BY THE SEAL HUNT AS FAR AS THE
ECONOMIC STATISTICS GO... OUR ATTITUDE
HAS BEEN THAT WE COULDN T HAVE DONE AS
MUCH GOOD FOR GREENPEACE OURSELVES
BY SPENDING 160,000 DOLLARS."

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SHENANIGANS AND STREET THEATER
TACTICS OF SOME OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS CAN ON OCCASION
MAKE THEM OBNOXIOUS, POST IS AWARE THAT ANTI-SEALING
SENTIMENTS ARE WIDELY HELD BY VERY MANY THOUGHTFUL AND
RESPONSIBLE PERSONS THROUGHOUT US, INCLUDING SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER
OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH NFLD
AUTHORITIES CONCERNED WITH SEAL HUNT AND HAVE CONVEYED
THE CONCERN FELT BY THESE AMERICANS BOTH WITH RESPECT
TO THE METHODS USED IN SLAUGHTERING SEAL PUPS AND WITH

ESPECT TO THE ULTIMATE SURVIVAL OF THE SPECIES.
NEWFOUNDLANDERS, HOWEVER, A CHARMING AND CIVILIZED FOLD,
TEND TO BE AS DEEPLY COMMITTED IN FAVOR OF THE HUNT AS THE
ANTI-HUNT PEOPLE ARE IN OPPOSITION. THUS THE POST S
EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN, WHILE THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE ANY
INFLUENCE ONE WAY OR THE OTHER ON THE QUESTION OF THE
CONTINUANCE OF THE HUNT, ARE NO DOUBT OF SOME USE IN
REMINDING NEWFOUNDLANDERS THAT THE EYES OF THE WORLD ARE
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ON THEM. SUCH SCRUTINY MUST CERTAINLY GO A LONG WAY TOWARD
ASSURING A MINIMUM OF CRUELTY IN THE SLAUGHTERING OF PUPS
AND THE MOST CAREFUL MANAGEMENT OF THE SEAL HERD FOR FUTURE
GENERATIONS. END COMMENT.
MOORE

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